## SUICIDE AWARENESS FOR FIRE COMMAND PERSONNEL

June 26, 2018

**Activity Number:** 

753

Location:

Saugus Fire Department 27 Hamilton Street Saugus, MA 01906

Time:

0830-1700

Prerequisite:

None

Notes:

This is a "Priority Selection" course which is not first come-first serve.

**Priority Selection Date:** 

June 20, 2018

- Overview of Suicide
- Myths of Suicide
- Crisis Intervention and Suicide Prevention
- Preventative and Protective Factors
- Risk and Recognition
- Strategies for Responding to those considering suicide
- Referral skills and resources

Suicide among fire personnel is a continuing and concerning problem. How to recognize the potential in department members and what to do if these indicators are present are unique challenges for command personnel. What support resources exist? What does this mean for my agency? Can a firefighter return to their career if they have made a suicide attempt? Where do I begin if one of my firefighters commits suicide?

This course is designed for command personnel- chiefs, deputy chiefs, captains and lieutenants. It is based in part on the ICISF's "Suicide Awareness: An Introduction for Crisis Responders" and will explore these questions and more. It is designed to increase awareness of suicide in both the general population and the fire service, and to equip participants with information and basic skills when responding to a person considering suicide. The ability to recognize and effectively intervene with suicidal individuals is one of the most challenging aspects of management. This program will introduce techniques and options that have been found to be useful for command personnel.

Recommended for those without formal mental health training, this course will utilize discussions, demonstrations, scenarios, and case examples to facilitate learning.

